

Service Members Home Ownership Tax Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3590, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S13376**

Pending:

Reid Amendment No. 2786, in the nature of a substitute.

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Saturday, December 19, 2009.

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Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn.

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

David T. Matsuda, of the District of Columbia, to be Administrator of the Maritime Administration.

Gary Blumenthal, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2010.

Chester Alonzo Finn, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2012.

Sara A. Gelser, of Oregon, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2011.

Ari Ne'eman, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2012.

Dongwoo Joseph Pak, of California, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2012.

Carol Jean Reynolds, of Colorado, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2010.

Fernando Torres-Gill, of California, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2011.

Jonathan M. Young, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2012.

Gwendolyn E. Boyd, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation for a term expiring August 11, 2014.

Peggy Goldwater-Clay, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Barry Gold-

water Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation for a term expiring June 5, 2012.

Marie Collins Johns, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration. **Page S13400**

Messages from the House: **Pages S13381–82**

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By 59 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. 380), Senate agreed to the motion to recess until 12:01 a.m. on December 18, 2009. **Page S13400**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—380) **Page S13400**

Recess: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and recessed at 6:52 p.m., until 12:01 a.m. on Friday, December 18, 2009.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Douglas B. Wilson, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, who was introduced by Senator Shaheen, Malcolm Ross O'Neill, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, Mary Sally Matiella, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, Paul Luis Oostburg Sanz, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy, who was introduced by Representative Skelton, and Jackalyne Pfannenstiel, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, all of the Department of Defense, and Donald L. Cook, of Washington, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Ben S. Bernanke, of New Jersey, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Eric L. Hirschhorn, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration, Marisa Lago, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Steven L. Jacques, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2889, to reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 554, to improve the safety of motorcoaches, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1562, to provide for a study and report on research on the United States Arctic Ocean and for other purposes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1609, to authorize a single fisheries cooperative for the Bering Sea Aleutian Islands longline catcher processor subsector;

S. 2852, to establish, within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an integrated and comprehensive ocean, coastal, Great Lakes, and atmospheric research, prediction, and environmental information program to support renewable energy;

S. 2856, to allow the United States-Canada Transboundary Resource Sharing Understanding to be considered an international agreement for the purposes of section 304(e)(4) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2859, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000;

S. 583, to provide grants and loan guarantees for the development and construction of science parks to promote the clustering of innovation through high technology activities;

H.R. 3819, to extend the commercial space transportation liability regime, an original bill entitled "Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization Act of 2009"; and

The nominations of Julie Simone Brill, of Vermont, and Edith Ramirez, of California, both to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, David L. Strickland, of Georgia, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, Nicole Yvette Lamb-Hale, of Michigan, to be Assistant Secretary of Com-

merce, and Michael A. Khouri, of Kentucky, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, and routine lists in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps and Coast Guard.

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance concluded a hearing to examine carbon monoxide poisoning, after receiving testimony from Kelvin J. Cochran, United States Fire Administrator, United States Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Alan Korn, Safe Kids USA, Washington, D.C.; John Andres, Kidde Residential and Commercial, Mebane, North Carolina; and Cheryl Burt, Rochester, Minnesota.

PUBLIC LANDS AND FORESTS BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine S. 1470, to sustain the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land and other public land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to release certain wilderness study areas, to designate new areas for recreation, S. 1719, to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Alta, Utah, S. 1787, to reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, H.R. 762, to validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and H.R. 934, to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands, after receiving testimony from Senators Tester and Crapo; Harris Sherman, Undersecretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment; Edwin Roberson, Assistant Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Mike McGinley, Beaverhead County Commissioners, Dillon, Montana; Ronald Hurt, Fremont County, Saint Anthony, Idaho; Sherman Anderson, Sun Mountain Lumber Deer Lodge, Deer Lodge, Montana; Matthew Koehler, WildWest Institute, Missoula, Montana; Tim Baker, Montana Wilderness Association, Helena; and Christopher A. Wood, Trout Unlimited, Arlington, Virginia.

SAFEGUARDING THE AMERICAN DREAM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine prospects and proposals for our economic future and safeguarding the American dream, after receiving testimony from Senators Conrad and Gregg; Alan

Greenspan, former Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and David M. Walker, Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress, Washington, DC.

AFGHANISTAN CONTRACTS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight concluded a hearing to examine an overview of Afghanistan contracts, after receiving testimony from William H. Campbell, Director, Operations Directorate, Office of the Comptroller, Edward M. Harrington, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Procurement, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, and Jeffrey P. Parsons, Executive Director, U.S. Army Contracting Command, all of the Department of Defense; Charles North, Senior Deputy Director, Afghanistan-Pakistan Task Force, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Daniel F. Feldman, Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1703, to amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to reaffirm the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for Indian tribes, with amendments; and

S. 1011, to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

COBELL V. SALAZAR SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Cobell v. Salazar settlement agreement, after receiving testimony from Ken Salazar, Secretary, Hilary Tompkins, Solicitor, Office of the Solicitor, and David Hayes, Deputy

Secretary, all of the Department of the Interior; Thomas J. Perrelli, Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice; Keith Harper, Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP, Washington, D.C.; and Elouise P. Cobell, Browning, Montana.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 678, to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1376, to restore immunization and sibling age exemptions for children adopted by United States citizens under the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption to allow their admission to the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Barbara L. McQuade, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, Christopher A. Crofts, to be United States Attorney for the District of Wyoming, Michael W. Cotter, to be United States Attorney for the District of Montana, Mark Anthony Martinez, to be United States Marshal for the District of Nebraska, and James L. Santelle, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, all of the Department of Justice.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 2862, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Office of International Trade, with an amendment; and

S. 2869, to increase loan limits for small business concerns, to provide for low interest refinancing for small business concerns.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 19, 2009 unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H.

Con. Res. 223, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.